

1980

## Letters (1980): Correspondence 151

Alexander D. Crary

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HARRISON A. WILLIAMS, JR.  
CHAIRMAN

*AC*  
*Jules. 11/20*

**United States Senate**  
COMMITTEE ON  
HUMAN RESOURCES

*What is  
Liv's reaction?*

TO: Senator  
FROM: ADC  
RE: Medal of Freedom for Lucia  
Chase

The American Ballet Theatre has called and written to ask you to support the retiring ABT director, Lucia Chase, for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

The attached letter claims that Livy is the prime mover for this award. I think the Medal of Freedom is really over doing it for Lucia Chase - the Kennedy Center Honors would be more appropriate - but I don't feel strongly one way or the other.

One problem that may influence your decision is the fact that the ABT management has locked out the dancers over a wage dispute. The dancers are holding out for more money and management will not agree. The company stagehands and musicians receive substantially higher pay.

Because of the dispute, ABT has just had to cancel its December season at the Kennedy Center. It is even doubtful that the gala in NYC on ~~Jan 13~~ will go on. You are invited to this gala in attached letter.

*May 4*